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# DRESS HINTS FOR MEN · 1891

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PRESENTED BY

BLANK, BLANK & CO.,

BLANK ST., BLANKVILLE.

"The Apparel" "oft proclaims" "the man"



*O dress well is economy. Well made and perfect fitting garments are not only pleasing to the eye, but they are much more serviceable than cheap and poor-fitting garments, and therefore cost less in the long run. In purchasing apparel of any kind, every man should seek a reliable guarantee of quality; and there is no guarantee better than that of long established success and honorable reputation. Success and good reputation come only from honorable dealing, experience and knowledge; and that means a conscientious regard for every customer's welfare, and taste and judgment to supply them.*

*We are fully alive to the fact that our continued prosperity depends on your good-will, on your confidence, on your satisfaction with our goods and our methods; and if you are not already a customer, we desire to make you one by proving to you that we know how to meet your wants, how to advise you safely in matters of dress; by placing our knowledge and experience at your service; by pleasing you with our goods and our prices; by fully informing you of the respective qualities of the goods we offer, and always giving you the best possible value for your money; in a word, in making it for your interest to deal with us.*



## FOR SPRING AND SUMMER.



THE approach of spring and summer renders it necessary to replace many articles of your wardrobe with others more seasonable.

In making your purchases of light apparel there are many points on which you will wish information and advice.

You will find this little book a material aid ; for it tells a good deal that you will probably want to know about men's furnishings for the opening season, and will assist you materially in deciding what is best for you to buy.

Most of the goods catalogued we carry constantly in stock at the proper seasons ; and are always prepared to show them in great variety.

We make a particular point of showing correct and accepted styles ; and we offer this season, in a handsome selection of all classes of men's furnishings, the best productions of leading New York, London, and Paris manufacturers.









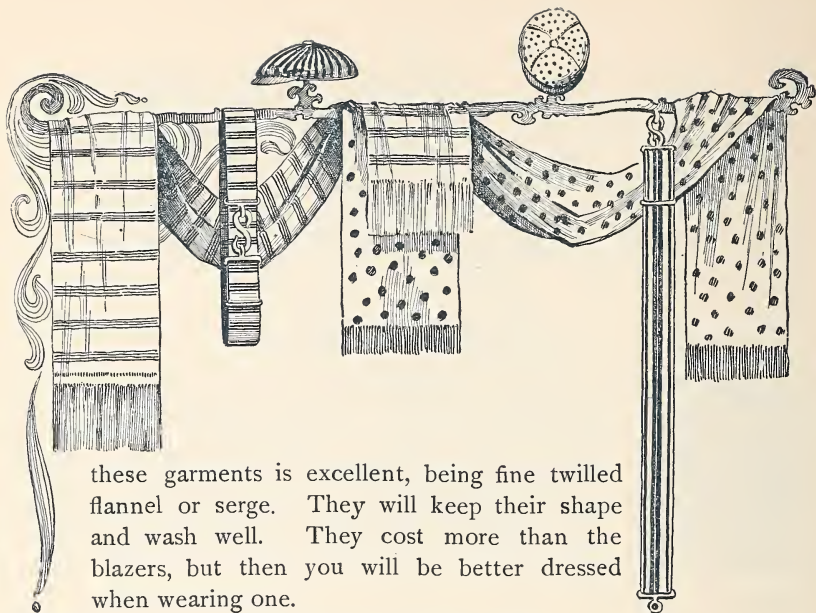
## OUTING GARMENTS.



THE great prevalence of athletic sports of all kinds gives great importance to the special garments prepared for outing purposes; and we give much care to this department of our stock. We are prepared to supply every requisite in the way of negligee garments suited to all the many varied occasions for which they are now used.

**Blazers** of flannel and serge, are now used by every one for negligee purposes. We have them in several grades. They come in stripes ranging from narrow lines to two inches wide, neat small checks, and solid colors. When you buy be sure as to quality. Of late they have been cheapened very much both in fabric and coloring. We don't advise you to buy the cheapest, because they will not do you good service. Better pay a little more and get something that will last. Insist on fast colors and firm fabrics. As to price, we can suit you.

**Flannel Coats** with woven effects are in some respects more desirable than blazers, although they cost more. They haven't yet been cheapened by poor imitations; and then too, they are more quiet and refined in their colorings, and are therefore growing in favor with those who don't approve of black or red. The patterns run about the same as in the blazers, but the colors are all soft and are woven instead of printed, and, therefore, entirely durable. The fabric of



these garments is excellent, being fine twilled flannel or serge. They will keep their shape and wash well. They cost more than the blazers, but then you will be better dressed when wearing one.

**Tennis Caps** in various colors to match coats.

**Belts** in silk or silk-mixed webs, and leather, in various patterns.

Solid colors, crimson, scarlet, light-blue, navy-blue, black, etc., and combination stripes of all colors and various widths. Be sure to get a *good* belt; a cheap web soon stretches out; a cheap clasp soon breaks. The solid bent clasps are the best; those soldered at the joints soon give out. A good clasp is fire gilt, and the gilt will not wear off nor tarnish; but cheap gilt gets brassy in a few days. Leather belts are now stylish; they are very serviceable.

**Sashes** are now much used for elegant summer negligé, and we recommend them as a handsome and picturesque article of attire. If properly adjusted they afford all needed support to the trousers and are more comfortable, as well as more sightly, than a belt, as they do not "bind" about the waist. We show them in silks, in all colors and combinations, plain and in various widths of stripes. Cross stripes in college colors are much in favor. Don't buy a



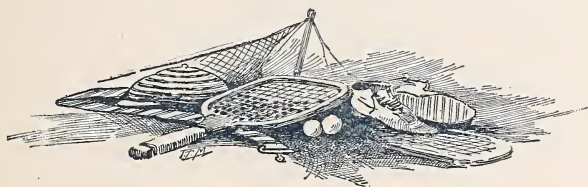
short and narrow sash, it will soon get stringy. Pay a little more and buy a larger one, and you will be better satisfied.

**Tennis Trousers** in white and grey flannel and serge. These come in various weights. Light weights don't keep their shape as well as heavy weights. Govern your choice according to your use. For athletic purposes where shape doesn't count, buy light weights; for lounging or house wear buy the heavy weights if you are very particular. Don't buy extremely fine white flannel; it turns yellow, shrinks badly, and soils easily; a coarser fabric is better. Serge is better than flannel, as it has a hard, smooth surface, doesn't shrink much, nor soil readily. Be sure to buy trousers plenty long, as they will shrink to some extent in washing.

**Bicycle and Base Ball Uniforms** we can supply to order on short notice, with appropriate club emblems or monograms.

**Bicycle Hose.** (See *Hosiery*.)

**Negligee Shirts.** (See separate department under that head.)







## NEGLIGEE AND SUMMER SHIRTS.



THE immense demand which has arisen for negligee shirts has this season caused the production of an unusual variety of desirable shirting fabrics, as follows:

**Pure Silk, Silk and Cotton Mixtures, Silk and Flannel Mixtures, Fancy Flannels, Fancy Cotton Fabrics.**

These are adapted for various purposes, and permit a very desirable combination of comfort and elegance in a greater degree than heretofore.

We show a handsome line of shirts in these various fabrics, in a wide range of prices, and suited for various occasions.

**Fine Flannel Shirts** are now a necessity in every man's wardrobe.

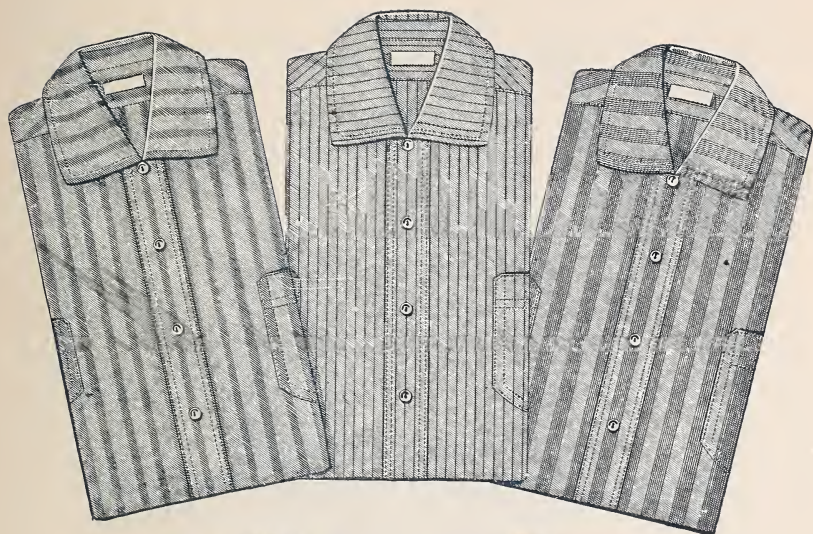
We show them in numerous handsome colorings with stripes, plaids, and checks. The handsomest patterns are those with silk stripes, which are very attractive. A man wearing a silk-striped flannel shirt is always well dressed and neat in appearance. A word of caution: Like all good things in popular demand, fancy flannel shirts are now extensively made in cheap imitations. After one washing these inferior goods become very "cottony" in appearance, and the colors run and fade. Don't buy them if you wish shirts that will look well and do you good service. About \$2.50 is as low as a *good* flannel shirt can be sold for. Others that *look* about as well are sold for less, but we don't recommend them. Buy flannel shirts about two sizes

larger than white shirts to allow for shrinkage. We'll tell you how to keep them from shrinking too much. It's only a matter of washing them properly.

**Silk Shirts** are now the thing for elegant negligee—not for athletics, they're not suited for that—but for summer lounging, when one wants to be comfortable, cool, easy, and yet *handsomely* attired, they are perfection. They come in white and cream grounds with stripes or hair lines in delicate colors, or with woven figures without color. The range of prices is very wide. Pure silk shirts—fine twill or firm pongee—are of course very expensive and only suited to those with whom price is no object—but they're awfully nice. Most of the so-called "silk" shirts are silk wefts—that is, the outer thread is silk and the inner cotton. If this fabric is of good quality—that is, if the silk threads are heavy enough and the texture is firm—it is the most satisfactory silk material, for it wears better, stands washing better, is much cheaper than the pure silk, and is just as good-looking. But look out for the very low-priced silk shirts. The silk is all on the surface and will disappear after one washing, after which the garment cannot be distinguished from cotton. Don't buy silk shirts at all unless you are willing to pay a price which will ensure a good article—and good silk shirts are not low-priced.

**Fine Cotton Shirting Fabrics** are coming into prominence this summer both for negligee and ordinary wear. To this class belong the OXFORD CLOTHS, which are made of the finest grade of long cotton, but of large threads loosely woven in a peculiar weave; the MADRAS, ZEPHYR, or CAMBRIDGE CLOTHS, of the very finest and softest texture, plain or twilled weave; and the CHEVIOTS, close woven of heavy, hard-twisted threads. All these have woven colored stripes, checks, and plaids in almost innumerable combinations, sizes, and colors. They are extremely "swell" and much in favor. This season they are shown for the first time in combination with silk stripes, etc.; and there are numerous handsome variations in the weaves by the introduction of twills combined with the regular weaves. For negligee wear they are made up with turn-over collars and with-





SILK AND FLANNEL SHIRTS.



out bosoms, and are laundered either with soft finish or starched collars and cuffs. Madras, Cambridge, or Zephyr cloths are also very desirable for ordinary wear, for which purpose they are usually made to order with standing collars, pleated starched bosoms, etc.



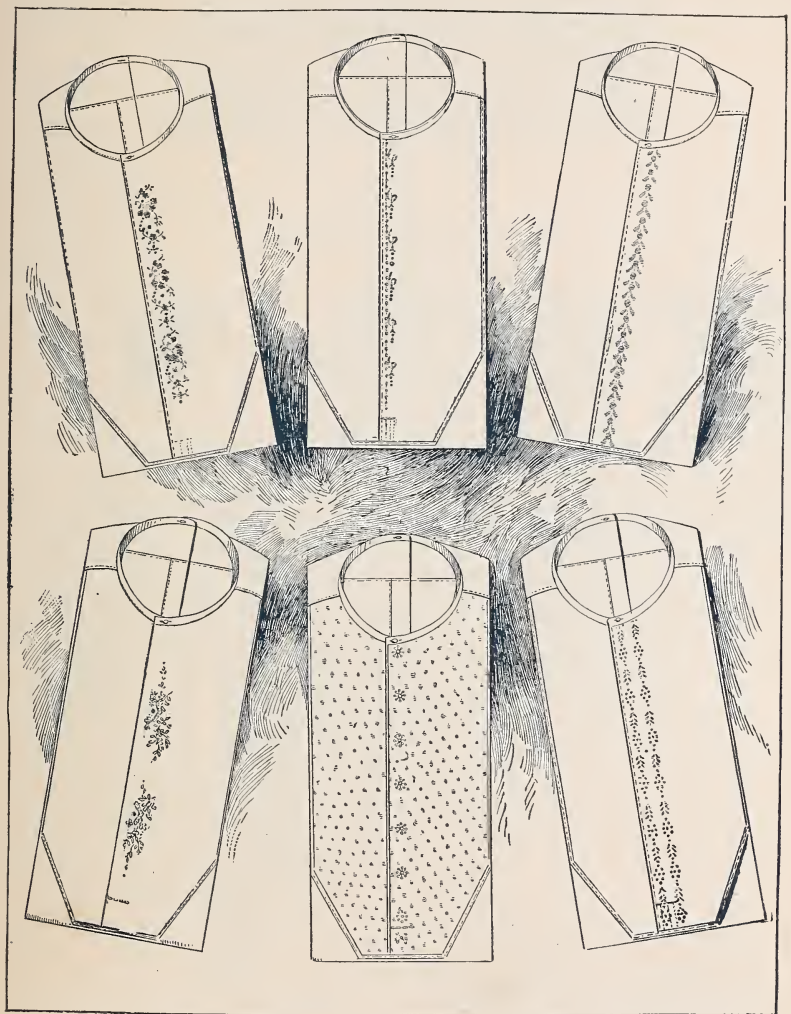
## DRESS SHIRTS.



IN dress shirts we offer the following selections in bosoms:

**Plain Linen, Linen with neat All-over Embroidery, Linen with Delicate Line Embroidery, Plain Pique with Wales from Very Narrow to Very Wide, Fancy Pique, Embroidered Pique, Plain Satine Stripe, Embroidered Satine Stripe.**

We use the best Paris-made bosoms, of unequaled quality and strictly correct in style. Beside the handsome assortment which we constantly carry in stock, in our shirt manufacturing department we make shirts to order of a special grade of excellence, always guaranteeing a perfect fit,



EVERY VARIETY IN DRESS SHIRTS.



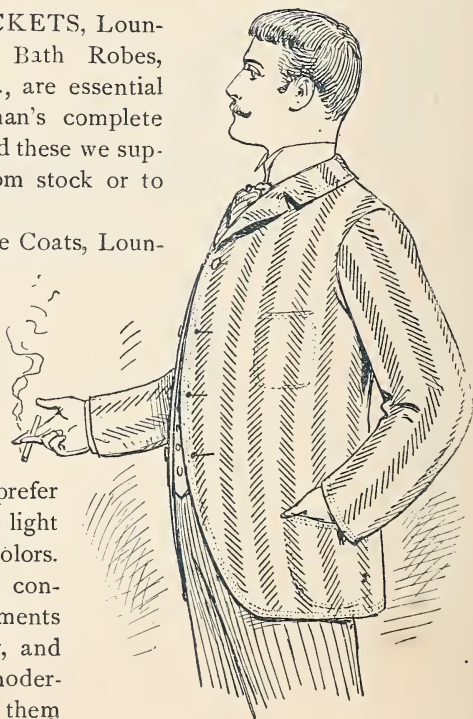
## FOR THE HOUSE.



**S**MOKING JACKETS, Loun-  
ging Robes, Bath Robes,  
Pajamas, etc., are essential  
to a gentleman's complete  
wardrobe, and these we sup-  
ply either from stock or to  
special order.

**Smoking Jackets** or House Coats, Loun-  
ging or Dressing Robes,  
etc., are now made in a  
variety of fine woolen  
goods of various weights  
and attractive patterns.

Pretty browns and  
dark-blues are much  
used, but for those who prefer  
them there are handsome light  
broken plaids in several colors.  
The great comfort and con-  
venience of these garments  
recommend them highly, and  
we offer them at such moder-  
ate prices as to bring them  
within the reach of all.



HOUSE COATS.

are all tailor-made, and are remarkable for their perfect fit and elegant style. Even the cheapest are handsome and sightly garments. Higher grades are finished with quilted linings, collars, pockets, and



SMOKING JACKETS.

cuffs, or with silk cord, loops, etc., and for gentlemen who are luxurious in their tastes, we can supply to order very elegant garments of fine cloth matelassé silk or velvet; but we do not always carry these expensive grades in stock.





LOUNGING ROBES.



PAJAMAS.

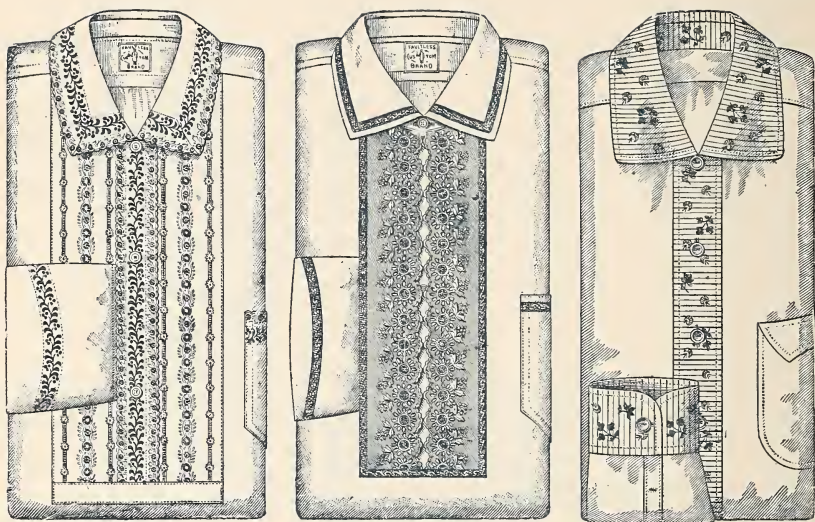


**Bath Robes** of plain crash, or with fancy embroidered edges.

**Pajamas** are the model garments for night, being more comfortable, convenient, and stylish than night shirts. Although not hitherto widely worn they are fast coming into general use on their merits. Those who once sleep in them never return to a night shirt; and they are most comfortable for lounging in the chamber in hot weather. They come in nainsook, cheviot, madras, pongee silk, etc., and very pretty suits can be bought at a very moderate price. Elaborate Pajama Suits of fine silk with embroidery, supplied to order.



**BATH ROBES.**



NIGHT SHIRTS, ALL KINDS AND QUALITIES.

**Night Shirts** in plain nainsook or muslin ; with collars, cuffs, pockets, and front ornamented with plain and tasteful edging ; with white or colored embroidery on collars, cuffs, pockets, and fronts, ranging from simple to very elaborate, and from very low priced to very expensive. We show a desirable assortment of these goods, selected with an eye to good taste—not too elaborate or showy, but quiet and neat.





GOOD NIGHT.



## SPRING AND SUMMER NECKWEAR.—SHAPES.



**I**n spring and summer neckwear we offer a very inviting selection in correct shapes and a great variety of fabrics. We give especial care to this important department, and our stock shows the best things produced by the best New York and London houses.

**Knots, Four-in-Hands, and Windsors**, which continue the leading scarfs for summer wear, we show in all variety of summer fabrics in made-up knots.

**The Open-Top Teck** is a favorite summer pattern. It has a long, narrow knot and loose, graceful, flowing ends, making a light, cool scarf.

**Four-in-Hands** range from  $2\frac{1}{4}$  to 3 inches wide, and continue as popular as ever.

**Windsors** are now in great demand for negligee dress, for which many persons prefer them above all other scarfs.

**Dress Bows** in white lawn of the proper size and shapes.

**Street and Negligee Bows**, in all popular shapes and fabrics.

**Puff Scarfs, Ascots, De Joinvilles**, and other scarfs of limited sale we show in suitable assortment at their proper seasons.



EVERY FASHIONABLE SHAPE IN NECKWEAR.





## SPRING AND SUMMER NECKWEAR.—FABRICS.



**GOOD TASTE** in summer neckwear is shown in the proper selection of fabrics, which then offer a much wider range than at other seasons. To be well-dressed in summer a man must wear a scarf which not only *is* cool but *looks* cool. Dark, heavy silks are out of place; something filmy, soft, and delicate is what is wanted. Here are some suggestions about desirable things in summer scarfs.

**Pongee Silk** is light, soft and pleasing to the eye, and is one of the best hot-weather fabrics. Nothing is better than white; provided you do not expect too much in the way of durability; for, of course, you can't wear a white scarf long without soiling it. Plain white is good, but better yet is the variety which has a delicate woven pattern, also white. Others have delicate stripes in soft colors. This class of effects is much worn in New York in warm weather.

Then there are the colored pongees or foulards, which are nearly, not quite, the same. They are of white grounds with large scroll patterns printed in colors, usually black, navy or light-blue, or maroon, but sometimes of other colors; or of dark grounds with the patterns in white. These are also very popular; for while they are not so dressy as the pure white, they are more durable because they don't soil so readily. They are especially suitable for Windsors, or knots with flowing ends.

**Washable Fabrics** for four-in-hands are white lawns, plain or embroidered linen crashes, which are very pretty and durable, and piqués, plain or fancy. Then there are scarfs in Oxford cloth, Madras cloth, etc., intended especially to wear with negligee shirts of similar cloths.

**Flannel Scarfs** in pretty color effects, with silk mixtures, are desirable for negligee wear, with flannel shirts.

**Evening Scarfs** in white and delicate colored silks, in artistic and pleasing tints and combinations. White silk crepes with beautiful embroidered figures, Grenadines, etc.

**For Ordinary Wear** we show a variety of silks that cover all the fashionable colors and patterns and suited to every taste.





## HOSIERY, GLOVES, HANDKERCHIEFS, SUSPENDERS.



ULL lines of hosiery in all desirable grades in Balbriggan, British, Lisle, etc., and the popular and excellent Silk Mixtures, Fancy Striped, Fancy Embroidered and Clouded Effects, and Solid Colors.

**Fast Blacks** are good to buy as the right makes are now absolutely and reliably black; and they are, therefore, again in favor. We guarantee the color fast.

**Silk Spliced** or "re-inforced" hosiery has double heels, toes, and ankles, with silk threads interwoven, giving additional strength and handsome appearance.

**Lisle Thread Hose**, although much liked by some, is not entirely desirable because the threads are apt to draw or pull apart, and it therefore lacks durability.

**Bicycle Hose** in heavy and durable ribbed fabric, in solid black, brown and blue.

## GLOVES.

**Dress Gloves** in Pearl or White, with White, Black, or Combination Stitching.



DRESS GLOVES, WALKING GLOVES, HOSIERY.



**Walking Gloves** with Piqué Seams, in Tans and Browns, of Kid, Chevrette, Castor, Mocha, etc.

**Driving Gloves** in Fashionable Shades.

*Our lines of gloves are from the best French and American makers, and combine perfect shape and durability.*

## HANDKERCHIEFS.

**W**E carry at all times complete lines of handkerchiefs in all grades and qualities, of the prettiest and latest styles.

**Linen Cambric Hemstitched Handkerchiefs**, Plain White, from 25 cents upward. Borders from  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide.

**Fancy Embroidered Linen Handkerchiefs**, Plain and Colored Figures.

**Printed Linen Hemstitched Handkerchiefs** in all the latest designs and color combinations, French and Irish.

**Silk Handkerchiefs**, White, Black, and Fancy, at all prices, in season.

## SUSPENDERS.

**W**HEN buying suspenders insist upon having fire gilt buckles which won't tarnish. Kid ends are the best if they are a *good* kid and not lambskin. Real kid wears well, remains pliable, and never squeaks. Imitation kid soon hardens and breaks. Russia leather also gets hard and squeaks. If the buttonholes are lined with chamois these defects are in part avoided. Of course, if you want these little niceties they will cost you a little more; but all good things cost, and we let you know about them for *your* benefit.

We offer choice lines of suspenders as follows:

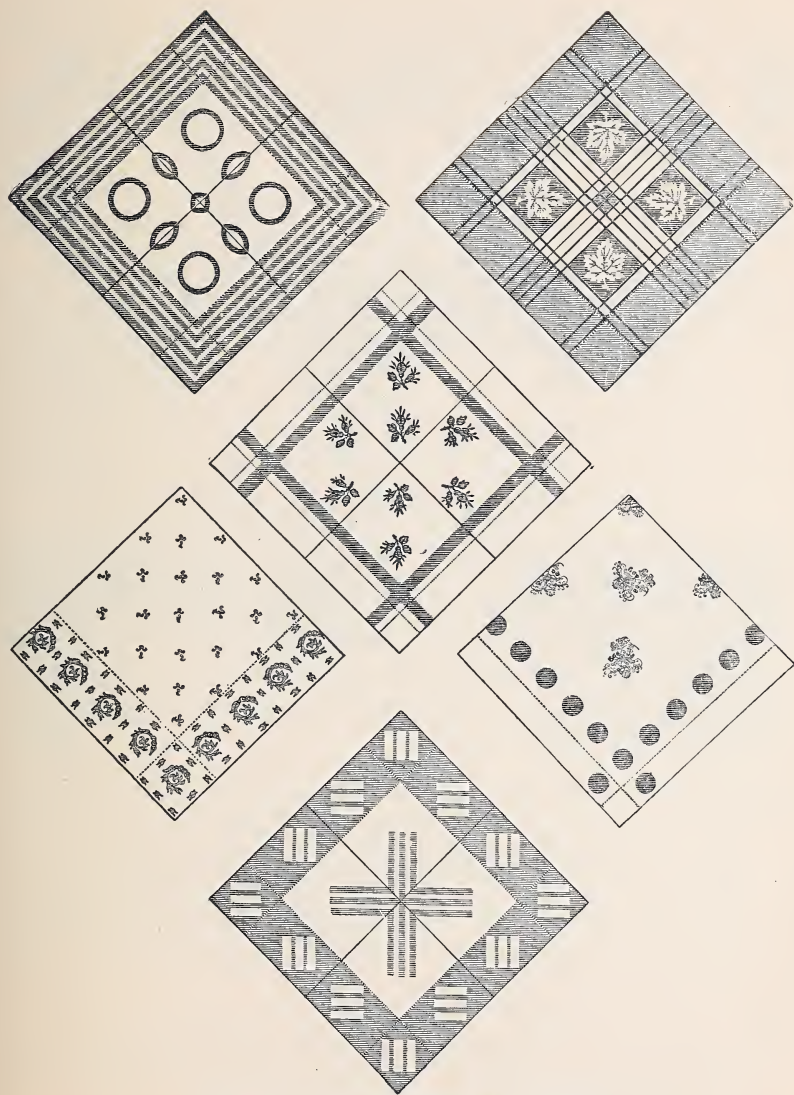
**Plain Silk and Satin Webs**, in solid colors, from bright to delicate.

**Embroidered Silk and Satin Webs**, in handsome Jacquard and hand-worked patterns.

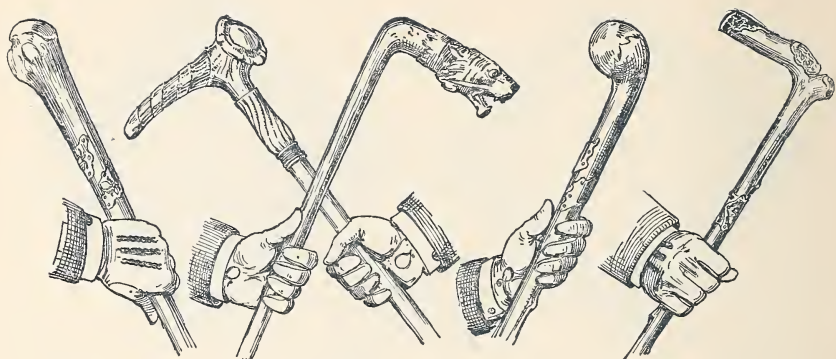
**Striped Silk Webs**, Lasting Webs, plain and fancy. Trimmed with various buckles whose quality and convenience we can recommend.

**All the various styles of ends**, kid, plain, or Mocha finish, round or flat, Colt, Russia, cord, etc.

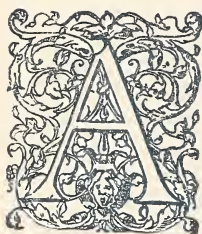




LINEN HANDKERCHIEFS, ALL KINDS.



## CANES AND UMBRELLAS.

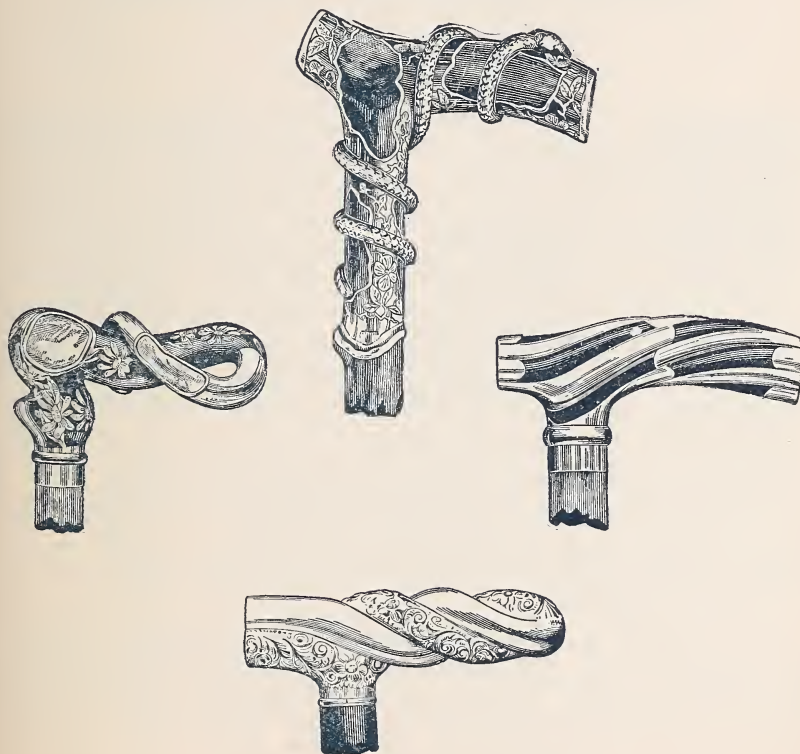


AMERICAN-made canes and umbrellas are now the best in the world. They are not only lighter, neater and more durable than foreign-made articles, but far surpass them in artistic merit. In no article of manufacture are more beautiful forms produced. Our line at all times covers the best productions of the best makers.

**Umbrellas**, with the unequalled Paragon steel ribs; 26 in., 28 in., 30 in. silk, silk mixed and cambric covers. Of course silk is best for looks, but it costs more than the others, and even the best silk is not very durable. The silk-mixed is the best all around umbrella, it is just as good a rain shedder as the silk, is nearly as compact, and although not quite as good looking, will outwear the silk three to one. Cambric is of course for cheapness.

**Canes** in all the qualities of East Indian, South American, and other imported sticks, including pimento, hazel, weichsel, orange, water-ash, Madagascars, etc.

**Both** cane and umbrella handles in popular shapes and materials. Natural knobs, silver mounts beautifully shaped and etched on buckhorn, buffalo horn, ivory, etc.; silver over natural wood, bright and oxydized finish, etc.



SILVER TRIMMED HANDLES.



## UNDERWEAR.

**I**N no other department is the buyer so little able to judge of values, and so dependent upon the good faith of the seller. Only an expert can judge of qualities in underwear, and shape, finish, etc., vary so greatly that buyers as a rule purchase goods that when worn prove unsatisfactory. It is important therefore to buy underwear whose shape and finish is known to be excellent, and whose quality is guaranteed by a trade mark whose reputation is high. We therefore offer only underwear of established excellence, and bearing the name of makers whose name is an assurance of quality. We now show a complete assortment of medium and light weights in

**French and English Balbriggan, Merino, Cashmere,  
All Wool, and Wool and Silk Mixtures.**

**Pure Whites, Solid Colors, Natural, Fawn, and  
Fancy Stripes.**

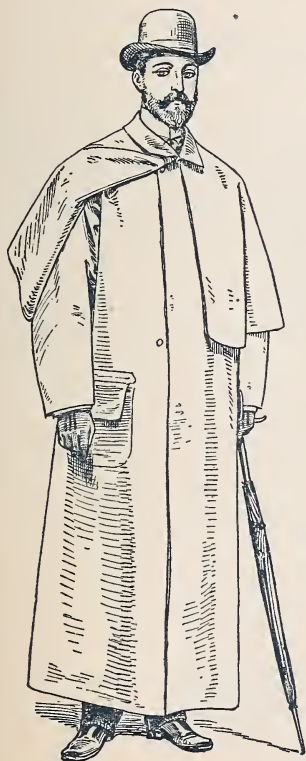
These lines are from the best English, French, and American makers, are full fashioned and guaranteed of perfect proportions. All grades and prices are represented. High-priced all-silk underwear to special order.







## WATERPROOFS.



THESE indispensable garments we show in various weights, patterns and sizes. Handsome appearance, good venti-

lation and light weight are the desirable qualities of this class of garments. The garments we offer have these requisites. They are shapely and stylish, and the fabrics have been selected with especial care with a view to durability, lightness, and neat appearance.

The fabrics in these goods are of both smooth and rough surfaces, in mixed colors and solid colors, ranging from dark to light.





## COLLARS AND CUFFS.

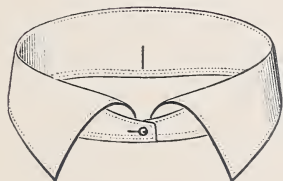
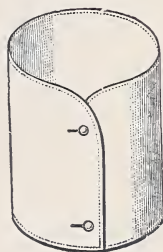
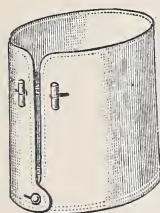
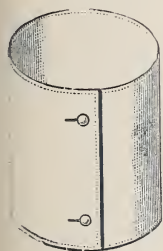
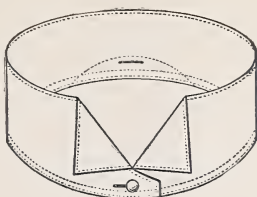
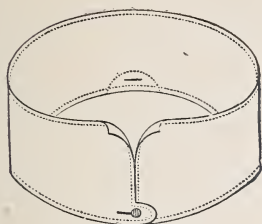


It is well to buy only collars and cuffs whose makers have an established reputation to maintain. There's a great difference in qualities; you can't see this difference, but it shows in the *wear*. A collar at 20 or 25 cents made by a well-known maker is cheaper than one at 12 or 15 cents without a name.

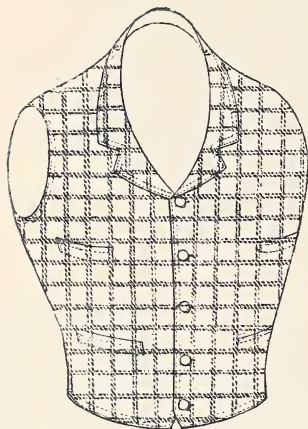
Cheap collars are of two kinds; those made of "tender" linen which has been rotted in the bleaching, and has no wear in it, or of linen and cotton mixed, "union" linen, which wears "fuzzy" and never looks nice. Cheap linen is also full of "sprats"—otherwise lumps; they don't show at first, but after the first washing they show brown and big. The best collars have hand-made buttonholes, the others machine-made buttonholes; the former wear much the best.

We handle only collars and cuffs that we can recommend as reliable; and offer them in all accepted shapes.





ALL SHAPES IN GOOD QUALITIES.



## SUMMER VESTS.



SUMMER VESTS are now much worn with flannel coats and trousers, and ordinary shirts, a compromise between the hot business suit and complete negligee. They are also very generally substituted for the cloth vest of the ordinary suit. We show them in duck, piqué, etc., in plain white, striped, checked and figured; and in the styles accepted for the present season. Prices very moderate.



Besides the seasonable goods enumerated on the preceding pages we offer every accessory of men's wear. Complete lines of the following:

SCARF PINS. SHIRT STUDS. LINK BUTTONS,

CUFF BUTTONS IN GOLD AND ENAMEL,

FULL DRESS PROTECTORS

and every requisite for Full Dress.

BATHING SUITS,

HOSE SUPPORTERS,

LEATHER GOODS,

ETC., ETC., ETC.

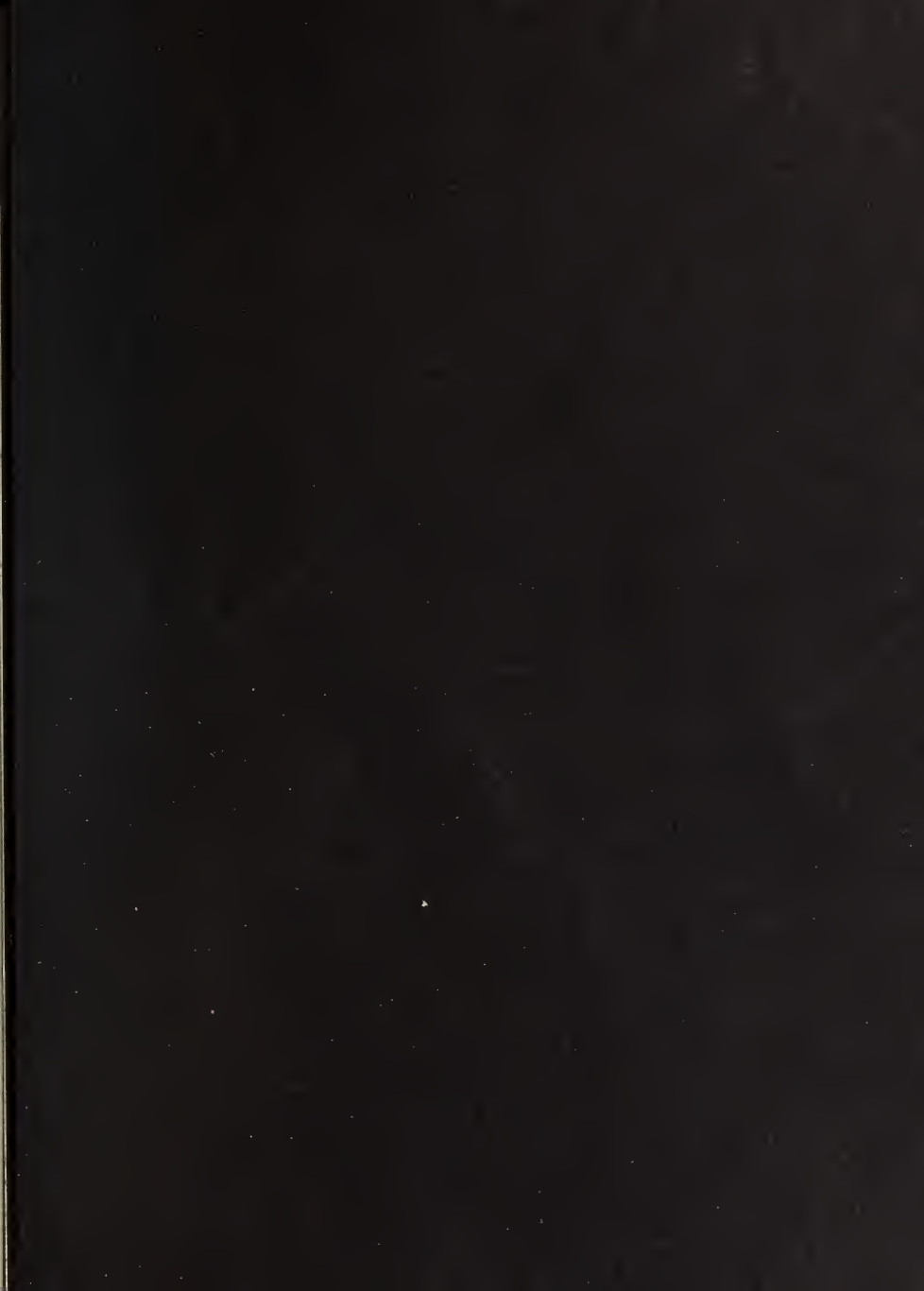
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PAGE, YOUR CARD AND WHATEVER  
SPECIAL MATTER YOU DESIRE.*





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